Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Saturday 09 Jan 2021 until 23:59 on Sunday 10 Jan 2021

Forecast Issued on Saturday 09 Jan 2021 at 02:25

Confidence: High for cold but clear for much of Saturday, then turning milder for Sunday and unsettled from Monday, but confidence medium to low for the detail of timings and snow levels in the worst of the later weather.

Headline for Saturday 09 Jan 2021: Dry, cold and sunny start. Higher cloud developing later.

Mountain weather hazards on Saturday 09 Jan 2021

Blizzards No Likelihood	**Heavy Snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales No Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** Medium Likelihood	**Poor visibility** Low Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Clear night	Sunny intervals	Sunny intervals	Cloudy	Cloudy	Sleet
Precipitation probability					
10%	10%	10%	20%	30%	40%

Forecast for Saturday 09 Jan 2021

Weather: A fine, dry morning with plentiful weak winter sunshine. Higher cloud feeding from the north during the afternoon, bringing patchy sleet and snow late evening, which turns to rain below 900m by midnight.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: Near 100% at first with little cloud around, becoming 60% late afternoon, then 10% or less late evening as bases lower and thicken becoming extensive from 450-600m by midnight.

Visibility: Very good or excellent becoming a handful of kilometres in later sleet and snow, then rain.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/mountain-forecast
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Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Saturday 09 Jan 2021

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	14/16 SW	20/23 SW	21/26 SW	22/27 SW	22/28 SW	19/24 SW	19/24 SW
600	9/11 SW	13/17 SW	15/19 SW	19/27 SW	18/26 SW	16/23 SW	15/22 SW
300	3/11 SW	4/15 SW	5/16 SW	7/20 SW	6/19 SW	6/19 W	5/17 W
Valley	0/5 W	1/8 SW	4/14 SW	7/19 W	5/16 W	6/18 W	6/16 W

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	-4/-11	-4/-12	-4/-11	-3/-11	-4/-11	-2/-8	-1/-8
600	-2/-7	-3/-9	-2/-8	-1/-8	-1/-8	0/-6	1/-5
300	-1/-3	-1/-4	1/-2	1/-2	1/-2	2/-1	2/-0
Valley	0/-1	1/-1	3/1	3/1	4/1	4/2	4/2
Freezing Level*	00m	100m	300m	400m	300m	800m	1000m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Very cold at height.

Forecast for Sunday 10 Jan 2021

Weather: Cloudy by day with some light rain, falling as snow across highest peaks, but outbreaks turning patchy from mid-morning, with many in east staying dry thereafter.

Maximum wind: West or southwest 20-25mph gusts 40mph

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: Less than 10% with bases broken to extensive from 450-650m.

Visibility: In rain poor, in summit snow and hill fog very poor.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Minus 3 Celsius increasing plus 5 Celsius during the afternoon
At 800m: Zero to plus 1 Celsius
Freezing level: 800-1000m

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Friday 8 January 2021 Location: Wansfell Pike summit (482m) at 11:00. We are continuing to provide the Fell Top Reports for people undertaking their daily local exercise during the lockdown. We would like to remind everyone that Government guidance stipulates that people should only exercise locally, not leaving the village, town or city where they live. A skittering of fresh powder snow has fallen down to valley level with around 1cm to 2cm at 400m adding to existing accumulations. Snow depth rises with height with the actual depth varying considerably owing to the fact that it has been deposited on strong N to NE winds and, generally, more has fallen in the East of the National Park compared to the West. Even on Wansfell Pike (482m) in sheltered spots and hollows there were drifts of over 70cm, although such depth is exceptional. Where undisturbed, the snowpack is very soft making the going laborious where deeper drifts are encountered. As for the past week, though, the main hazard on paths is ice. With another overnight frost, there was ice on paths, and my road, upwards (and downwards!). Anyone exercising locally on Saturday should be prepared to encounter even more ice at lower levels with a slow daytime thaw below 300m (especially on aspects catching the sun) followed by another forecasted hard overnight frost tonight with Cumbria under a Met Office Yellow warning for ice until 11am on Saturday. Ice is also present on popular routes where snow has been compacted and where small streams or drainage lines cross paths. This older ice was hidden beneath the fresh powder snow and spindrift giving a false sense of security underfoot. On steeper routes where fresh snow/spindrift lies above older, compacted snow, the two layers have not bonded creating unstable conditions. Cornices have formed above steep slopes on many different aspects. Although they are very small, they consist of soft snow and are extremely unstable; indeed some had developed deep (relatively speaking) cracks. So please do not venture near the edge of any steep slope. Even at only 480m on Wansfell Pike, the summit windchill at 11am was minus 14 degrees C, so full winter clothing (waterproofs, extra warm layers, hat & gloves), mountain boots and equipment are all essential for anyone going out onto the fells. For those venturing above the snowline and attempting, or traversing, steep slopes an ice axe and crampons are also essential and are strongly recommended for anyone going above the snowline owing to the amount of ice on paths. For thinner ice on paths, microspikes and poles are extremely useful. Goggles are recommended to reduce the sting of hail and spindrift driven on strong winds. Deep snow obscuring landmarks combined with low cloud demands excellent navigational skills as paths cannot simply be followed and steep drops are far less obvious, so please be conservative with your plans and know your limits. Temperature: minus 2.5 C, Maximum wind speed 43.6 mph, Wind chill: minus 14.1 C, Average wind speed: 35.2 mph

Issued at: 02:25 on Sat 09 Jan 2021

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